

*Quarterly Journal of the
Central States Numismatic Society*



the centinel



Volume 32, Number 1
Spring, 1984 — Milwaukee Convention Issue

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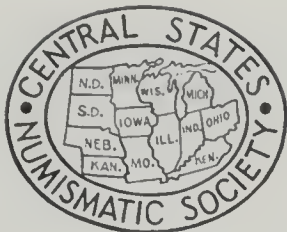
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the sentinel

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Look forward to the 46th Anniversary Convention
of the Central States Numismatic Society
on April 25, 26, 27 and 28, 1985
at Minneapolis, Minnesota

Central States



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Address all correspondence regarding **The Centinel** to the Editor, except changes of address, which should be directed to the Secretary-Treasurer.

PRESIDENTIAL

COMMENTARY

It seems the times one enjoys the most in life always pass by the fastest, and this has certainly been true of my term as your President. There is really something special about the Central States Numismatic Society. Our group has always been known for the warm and friendly relationships that prevail and I hope this will always be true.

As my term draws to a close, I want to thank all the Board members, each and every one of whom has been dedicated worker for both Central States and our hobby as a whole. It's been a pleasure to work with each of you and I'll look forward to continuing the friendships which we've formed over the last two years.

I've been in close touch with Governor Bertschy over the past several months. Del will be serving as General Chairman of our first Convention visit to Milwaukee since our 1977 conclave there. At an energetic 87, Del probably has more experience running coin shows than almost anyone in the country. I know we'll have an outstanding convention experience for our first visit to Milwaukee's MECCA Convention Center, which is also scheduled to be the site of the 1986 American Numismatic Association Convention.

While I've been able to meet many of our members personally during the past two years, I'll be looking forward to getting acquainted with new friends in Milwaukee.

The Secretary mailed election ballots to all members in good standing last month and I hope each of you took the time to cast a vote for the candi-

dates of your choice. As always, we have more qualified candidates seeking office than there are seats available. After the election and installation of the new Board, don't forget that your contact with our Governors and Officers is always welcome and solicited.

While the Board members will naturally have their own opinions and positions, they're always open to your ideas as well. The recently approved Fall Central States Convention is an example of a major change in our organization which came to the Board through member input. So don't ever feel that the Board won't care about your thoughts. We all do, and this is why our addresses are published in the *Centinel* — to make it easier for you to communicate your thoughts to us.

I'll see you in Milwaukee in only a few days, and then we'll have our 1985 visit to Minneapolis to look forward to.

— Kurt R. Krueger
President

Iowa Club Names Officers

The Cedar Rapids, Iowa Coin Club has elected officers to serve during the coming year. Brian Fanton was chosen as President; Don Harden, Vice President; Rich Wilford, Secretary; and Lyle Krug, Treasurer.

Jon Weberg, Jim Hampling, Roy Martin and Aaron Thompson constitute the Board of Directors for the Cedar Rapids club.

A MESSAGE FROM THE

SECRETARY



Our Milwaukee convention is just a few days away now and I'm really looking forward to seeing what the Milwaukee Numismatic Society has in store for us. This will be the 50th Anniversary of the MNS and I know the show committee will spare no effort to make this one of our finest conventions ever.

Ballots went out to all current members last month and the returns have been heavy. It's nice to know that so many of our members care enough about the affairs of our club to make their opinion known with their vote. All the ballots will be brought to and counted at the convention, and the results will be announced at the Saturday General Membership meeting. In addition to the various officer's positions, none of which are contested, there are 13 seats available on the Board of Governors, with more candidates than there are seats open.

I know there are always some peo-

ple who don't cast a vote because they feel that their's doesn't really have much importance. The top 13 candidates are elected to the Board under our rules, and I'll bet that less than ten votes will separate the lowest vote getter of the successful candidates from the next highest candidate. So each vote is important.

Do take time to attend the General Membership meeting on Saturday. You can be sure all the candidates will be there and this will be a good opportunity for you to get acquainted with them on a personal basis. The exact time of the meeting and its location in the MECCA Convention Center will be announced in the Convention program.

Talking about the Convention, I hope you aren't one of those people who every year puts off making your hotel reservations until the last minute. I've talked with General Chairman Bertsey several times over the last months and he's told me that the hotels are reporting heavier than anticipated bookings for our convention. If you haven't already made your hotel arrangements, I urge you to take care of this today. It's no fun to hunt around for a room at the last minute. We have three Convention hotels in Milwaukee, with a wide range of room prices, so there should be accommodations for every taste and budget.

As always at our Convention, I'll have a membership table where you can pay your dues in person. I welcome the chance to get acquainted with each and every one of you. When I send out membership cards they are

always addressed by hand and it makes the task much more enjoyable as I come to so many names where I can recall meeting and talking with the member whose card I'm sending out.

I've always felt that the CSNS members are almost part of my family and I do like to meet as many of you as I can, so please stop by the membership table in Milwaukee to chat for a while.

— Marjorie M. Owen
Secretary-Treasurer

Kansas Coin Club Sponsors Auction

The Johnson County (Kansas) Numismatic Society will sponsor a public auction of United States coins on Sunday, May 6. The sale will be held at the Howard Johnson's, located at I-35 and 95th Street in Lexana, Kansas.

Inspection of lots by bidders will be from noon until 2:00 p.m., and the sale will begin at 2:00 p.m. Approximately 500 lots will be included in the sale.

Further information about the May auction can be obtained from The Johnson County Numismatic Society, c/o American Rare Coin and Jewelry Exchange, 422 West 103rd Street, Kansas City, Missouri, or by calling (816) 942-7900.

Book Club Proving Popular With ANA Membership

One of the least publicized but most beneficial programs for members of the American Numismatic Association is the Reference Book of the Month Club. The club, latest in the growing list of membership advantages, has just completed its first full year of operation. During 1983, 853 ANA members joined the club and purchased 1231 books for their personal reference libraries.

Several offerings proved to be so

popular that they have sold out. Examples of the money-saving opportunities offered to serious collectors include: *Medallic Portraits of Washington*, by Baker, currently retailing as high as \$33, member price was \$9.85; *Confederate and Southern States Currency*, by W. S. Bradbeer, advertised at up to \$20, ANA price was \$6.25.

Equally good savings were available on such other titles as: *A Guide Book of English Coins*, by Ken Bressett; *A Guide Book of Modern Latin American Coins*, by Robert P. Harris; *A Banking History of Louisiana*, by Caldwell; *Fight Inflation With Silver Dollars*, by Les and Sue Fox; a four-volume set of Wayte Raymond references; *Coins of England and the United Kingdom*, by Seaby; *United States Pattern and Experimental Pieces*, by Kosoff and Judd; *Modern Foreign Currency*, by the ANA; *History of the Bank of England*, by Andreades; and *Collectors Guide to Presidential Inaugural Medals and Memorabilia*, by Joseph Levine.

The 1984 offerings promise to be as spectacular. There are no additional fees nor are members required to purchase a specified number of books during a given calendar year. The only requirement is membership in the ANA.

ANA members may request that their names be placed on the mailing list for notices simply by writing to ANA headquarters, P. O. Box 2366, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. Information about membership in the Association and an application form may be requested at the same address.

ABOUT THE COVER

Located only a few blocks from the MECCA Convention Center, site of the 44th Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society, Milwaukee's City Hall displays a strong Flemish influence.

CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

45th ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

APRIL 26 - 29, 1984

MECCA CONVENTION CENTER — MILWAUKEE, WIS.

HOST: MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF DAILY EVENTS — Please consult the Official Convention Program for possible changes. Because of early publication and mailing deadlines, educational programs and society meetings are not listed. These will be included in the Convention Program to be available in Milwaukee.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

- 12:00 noon — Convention security begins. Security room open to dealers with tables and Official Medal Badge holders.
- 12:00 noon — McIntire Numismatic Auctions lot viewing opens.
- 7:00 p.m. — Auction lot viewing closes.
- 10:00 p.m. — Security room closes.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26 — PNG DAY

- 8:00 a.m. — Convention registration opens for pre-registrants, Exhibit Hall lobby.
 - Bourse room opens to PNG dealers only.
 - Security room opens to PNG dealers.
- 9:00 a.m. — Auction lot viewing opens.
- 10:00 a.m. — PNG bourse opens to public.
 - Security room opens to Convention participants.
- 5:00 p.m. — Bourse room closes.
- 6:00 p.m. — PNG membership meeting.
 - Exhibit room opens for placement of educational exhibits.
 - Auction lot viewing closes.
- 7:00 p.m. — Auction by McIntire Numismatic Auctions, first session.
- 8:00 p.m. — PNG Cocktail reception.
- 9:00 p.m. — Exhibit room closes for night.
- 10:00 p.m. — Security room closes.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

- 7:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to dealers with tables.
 - Security room opens to dealers with tables.
 - Registration opens, Exhibit Hall lobby.
- 8:00 a.m. — Exhibit room opens for placement of educational exhibits, placement to be completed by 12:00 noon.
- 9:00 a.m. — McIntire Numismatic Auctions lot viewing opens.
- 10:00 a.m. — Ribbon cutting ceremony. Bourse room opens to public.
 - Security room opens to all Convention participants.
- 11:00 a.m. — Hospitality room opens to wearers of Official Convention Medal Badge only.
 - Auction by McIntire Numismatic Auctions, second session.

- 12:00 noon — Exhibit room opens to public.
- Auction by McIntire Numismatic Auctions, first session.
- 4:00 p.m. — Hospitality room closes.
- 5:30 p.m. — Auction by McIntire Numismatic Auctions, third session.
- 6:00 p.m. — McIntire Numismatic Auctions lot viewing closes.
- 7:30 p.m. — Registration closes. No further public entry to bourse room.
- 8:00 p.m. — Bourse room closes.
- Security room closes.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

- 8:30 a.m. — CSNS Board breakfast meeting.
- 9:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to dealers with tables.
- Security room opens to dealers with tables.
- Registration opens.
- McIntire Numismatic Auctions lot viewing opens.
- 10:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to public.
- Exhibit room opens to public.
- 11:00 a.m. — Hospitality room opens to Official Medal Badge wearers.
- 11:30 a.m. — CSNS General Membership meeting. Election results announced.
- 1:00 p.m. — Auction by McIntire Numismatic Auctions, fourth session.
- 1:00 p.m. — McIntire Numismatic Auctions lot viewing closes.
- 1:15 p.m. — Assembly for City of Milwaukee Bus Tour. Convention Hall lobby.
- 1:30 p.m. — City of Milwaukee Bus Tour departs.
- 4:00 p.m. — Hospitality room closes.
- 5:30 p.m. — Registration closes. No further public entry to bourse room.
- 6:00 p.m. — Bourse room closes.
- Exhibit room closes.
- Security room closes.
- 7:00 p.m. — CSNS "Dutch Treat" Cocktail Hour.
- 8:00 p.m. — CSNS Awards Banquet.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

- 8:30 a.m. — CSNS Board breakfast meeting.
- 9:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to dealers with tables.
- Security room opens.
- Registration opens.
- 10:00 a.m. — Bourse room opens to public.
- Exhibit room opens.
- 11:00 a.m. — Hospitality room opens to wearers of Official Medal Badge.
- 3:00 p.m. — Exhibit room closes.
- Hospitality room closes.
- 3:30 p.m. — Registration closes. No further public entry to bourse room.
- 4:00 p.m. — Bourse room closes.
- 45th Anniversary Convention closes.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

- 10:00 a.m. — All valuables must be reclaimed from security room.
- Security closes.

The members of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society hope that you will enjoy your visit to our city and invite you to return to MECCA when we hold our 50th Annual Fall Coin Show on September 28-29-30 at the MECCA Convention Center. For further information, contact A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 North Murray Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211.

Scottish Pound Is Feature of 1984 British Proof Set

The 1984 British Proof Set, struck by the British Royal Mint, marks the beginning of a new era for collectors, featuring as it does the new Scottish £1 coin. By tradition, Britain's currency rarely departs from established designs; however, the introduction of the £1 coin on April 21, 1983 brought with it an unprecedented decision by the British Royal Mint to strike a different reverse design in each of the four succeeding years, representing the countries of the United Kingdom: Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England. Each coin will bear an appropriate national design in contrast to the Royal Coat of Arms featured on the 1983 coin. The four variation designs have been approved by Proclamation of H. M. Queen Elizabeth II, beginning with Scotland in 1984.



United Kingdom Proof Coin Collection — 1984

The exquisitely designed reverse depicts the legendary Scottish Thistle eradicted (uprooted), enfiling a representation of The Royal Diadem — the crown worn by Her Majesty to the annual ceremonial opening of Parliament. The edge inscription is also changed and reads: "NEMO ME IMPUNE LACES-SIT, "No One Provokes Me With Impunity" — the celebrated motto of the Order of the Thistle. Though long associated with the national coinage of Scotland, the inscription appears on a British coin for the first time.

The origins of the Thistle as Scotland's emblem comes to us through the centuries, shrouded in the mists of time. According to ancient lore, many hundreds of years ago when the Viking marauders were the scourge of Britain's northeast coast, a raid on an important Scottish settlement was foiled when the raiders crept, barefooted, straight into a bed of thistles! The Viking cries of pain alerted the Scots defenders who rushed to the scene and quickly routed the anguished invaders. From that day on, the hardy, purple flowered thistle has been the proud emblem of the Scottish people.

Struck in nickel-brass, the Scottish £1 coin is identical in size to the 1983 coin, with a diameter of 22.50 mm, and edge thickness of 3.10 mm, and a weight

of 9.50 grams. The obverse bears the classic Arnold Machin portrait of H. M. Queen Elizabeth II, common to all United Kingdom coins.

Although Scotland's first coins were similar to those existing in England, a national coinage with a distinctly Scottish character gradually emerged. Even after James VI of Scotland succeeded to the English throne as James I in 1603, Scotland retained its own separate coinage, including the unique denominations of the "Merk," the "Turner" and the "Baubee," the copper six-pence that bore both the Scottish Thistle and the motto now featured on the 1984 pound. The Union of the Kingdom in 1707 brought about the replacement of Scottish coins by those of England, and Scottish designs virtually disappeared until the twentieth century. It is the first time in more than two centuries that the Scottish Thistle and motto have appeared on the same coin.

The 1984 British Proof Set will be struck in a limited mintage of 125,000 sets. It is attractively presented in a clear acrylic display frame within either a handsome leatherette or a superb genuine leather presentation wallet. The 1984 collection is also available in Brilliant Uncirculated condition, identical in all respects to the Proof coins, except that they do not have a frosted finish. The B. U. set is presented in a most attractive and informative full color folder.

Prices are: 1984 British Proof Set in genuine leather wallet - \$39.75 (U.S.), \$49.95 (CAN); 1984 British Proof Set in leatherette wallet - \$29.75 (U.S.), \$39.00 (CAN); 1984 Uncirculated Collection - \$8.75 (U.S.), \$12.00 (CAN); Minimum Order - \$17.50 (U.S.), \$24.00 (CAN).

Orders and inquiries should be addressed to the British Royal Mint, c/o Barclays Bank of New York, N. A., P. O. Box 2570, New York, NY 10163, or by calling toll-free 1-800,221-1215 (9:00 - 5:00 EST), except New York residents 212-784-6430. Dealers call 516-938-6016.

Milwaukee Club Announces 1985 Coin Show Dates

Milwaukee's South Shore Coin Club has announced that it will hold its 22nd Annual Coin Show on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 12-13-14, 1985 at Milwaukee's MECCA Convention Center, the site of this year's Central States Numismatic Society Convention.

Bourse Chairman John Wilson told the *Centinel* that the bourse will be limited to 150 dealers and the show will include a number of free educational programs about collecting to encourage public attendance.

Special discount hotel rates will be available to anyone attending the South Shore Coin Show at both the Marc Plaza and Hyatt-Regency Hotels and reservation cards are available from Wilson.

Dealers interested in bourse space at the Milwaukee show can write Wilson at P. O. Box 27185, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53227.

**How many new members
have YOU signed up for
the Central States
Numismatic Society
so far this year ?**

**Use the convenient
membership application
on page 46.**

The Royal Mint Strikes Hong Kong \$1000 Gold Coin Celebrating Year of the Rat



1984 Hong Kong \$1000 Gold Coin — The Year of The Rat

The British Royal Mint has announced the availability to North American collectors of the Hong Kong \$1000 gold coin celebrating the Chinese Lunar Year of the Rat, which commenced on February 2, 1984. The coin is the ninth in the ongoing series struck by the British Royal Mint upon commission of the Government of Hong Kong, commemorating each of the 12 years of the ancient Lunar Calendar.

According to legend, thousands of years ago Buddha summoned all the animals in creation to a New Year's feast. Only 12 animals accepted! To reward the 12 who came, Buddha named a year in special honor of each of them to be repeated in 12 year cycles. The first to arrive at Buddha's feast was Shu, the rat, an animal long respected in China as a good omen. For centuries the rat has been regarded as a sign of prosperity, creativity, longevity and honesty.

As in past years, the Hong Kong Lunar Coin, struck in 22 karat gold, is designed by artist-sculptor Lady Elizabeth Haddon-Cave. Shu, the legendary rat is depicted in exquisitely crafted detail upon the reverse. The obverse bears the renowned Arnold Machin portrait of H. M. Queen Elizabeth II common to most British and Commonwealth coins since 1968. The frosted finish of the reliefs imparts an added dimension to the appearance of the finely engraved piece.

Announcing the new issue, Mr. Michael J. Mansley, Assistant Director of Marketing for North America, said "The coins, which are legal tender in Hong Kong, have proved immensely popular with collectors since their inception in 1976, offering as they do, a unique continuity of theme." Previous issues are: 1976 the Dragon, 1977 the Snake, 1978 the Horse, 1979 the Goat, 1980 the Monkey, 1981 the Cockerel, 1982 the Dog, and 1983 the Pig.

For the Chinese this ancient calendar system is much more than just a means of measuring time. It is a tradition embracing mythology and folklore, which for thousands of years has been the basis for determining character traits. For instance, those born during the Year of the Rat, e.g. 1912, 1924,

1936, 1948, 1960, 1972 or 1984, are honest, ambitious and a perfectionist, and tend to overspend on loved ones. This year will be a happy one in both business and in love.

The Hong Kong \$1000 gold coins are struck in both proof and brilliant uncirculated condition and attractively encapsulated within their own presentation case. Prices are: Hong Kong \$1000 Gold Proof - \$525 (U.S.), \$68 (CAN); Honk Kong \$1000 Gold Uncirculated - \$350 (U.S.), \$439 (CAN).

Orders and inquiries should be addressed to the British Royal Mint, c/o Barclays Bank of New York, N. A., P. O. Box 2570, New York, NY 10163, or by calling toll-free 1-800,221-1215 (9:00 - 5:00 EST), except New York residents 212-784-6430. Dealers call 516-938-6016.

Britian's ½ P Coin Soon To Be History

The British Royal Mint ceased production of the ½ p coin on March 29, 1984, and the coin is likely to be demonetized by the end of the year. Making the announcement in a written House of Commons reply, Britian's Chancellor of the Enchequer, the Rt. Hon. Nigel Lawson said, "I have considered the evidence carefully and have decided that the ½ p coin no longer fulfills a very useful function in the currency. Moreover it is now costing more to make than its face value. The ½ p is currently worth less than the farthing when it was demonetized in 1960, and the old halfpenny when it was demonetized in 1969. The ½ p coin will remain legal tender for the time being, but I expect formal demonetization to follow by the end of the year."

The announcement is an exciting one for collectors. It means that the 1984 British Proof Set is likely to be the last to contain the ½ p coin and will be doubly special. The ½ p coin depicts the Royal Crown and is struck in bronze. It measures 17.14 mm and weighs 1.78 grams. It is the first of the decimal coins originally issued in 1971 to be withdrawn.

The set already has the attraction of the Scottish £1 coin, the first of the four "regional" pounds to be struck by the Royal Mint. The Scottish Pound has the particular distinction of bearing both the Scottish emblem, the Thistle, and as an edge inscription the Scotish motto, NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT ("No one provokes me with impunity") — the first time they have appeared together on the same coin in more than 200 years. The British Set has been struck in a limited mintage of 125,000 sets. It is expected that the latest news will greatly increase the demand for the already popular set.

Do you have a legal question about numismatics ?

Have it answered in *The Centinel* by Attorney Bill Mross !

This month Bill's feature — *Legal Tender*

— appears on page 29.

Send your questions to:

***The Centinel*, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201**

The Copper Cent of 1943 and Other Stories

by Jerry Scherer

The story of the 1943 Copper Cent begins several years before its manufacture in the events which led to the production of the 1943 Steel Cent. This important and interesting background will be the first part of our story. Perhaps then, the renowned error of 1943 can be more fully appreciated. After all, it was the search by the Mint for a substitute for the copper cent which produced this rare coin and remarkable story.

Already in 1941 it was recognized that copper was in short supply and that the demand for the metal would soon force a change in the composition which had remained unchanged since its first use in the Indian cent of 1864. Copper was not, however, the only problem. Tin was also in short supply. When mixed with zinc, these two metals amounted to 5 percent of the coin's composition. In a first-things-first fashion, the Mint changed the tin to zinc ratio of the cent, since the original legislation did not set exact quantities of each. Tin then became only a trace element in the composition of the cent. This change, however, did not solve the larger problem of the copper.

The Mint began looking for alternatives on its own. Many metal alloys were tried but most were not suitable or like zinc, the leading contender for replacing the copper cent, were also on the shortage lists. Trials in brass, aluminum, copper, aluminum-bronze, zinc-copper in various proportions, lead, antimony (a brittle silver-white metallic element), and others, including zinc coated steel were struck. In fact, according to Walter Breen, some of these trial pieces have survived. These disappointments, however, led the Mint to consider other options, some of which were historical and others far afield.

The historical suggestions were the revival of the three cent piece, a center-holed coin, and even subcontracting the minting of cents to private industry as the colonial governments had done. None of these options were acceptable, however, and the search continued. A new wave of experiments was begun in which the Mint looked to private industry for some exotic but possible answers. Coins were proposed which would be made of compressed paper, glass and plastic, but none of these proposals were adopted. In fact, later, these experiments would cause an embarrassment that the Mint would not soon forget.

One of the stories tells of a child of an employee of one of the contracted plastics companies who was found playing with one of the pattern coins. This information found its way to a prominent Congressman who began asking questions. This story is not, however, the real hot water that the Mint got into. The Mint produced special dies for the experiments which took place outside the Mint. John R. Sinnock designed a mock coin by modifying the obverse of the Colombian two centavo and the reverse of a Washington medalet. On the obverse the liberty bust remained, but the incused "LIBERTY" was removed from the headband and the legend was changed to read "LIBERTY" behind the bust and "JUSTICE" was engraved in the right field in front of the bust. The date, 1942, was added below the truncation. The beaded border and oak wreath of the medalet were kept, but the legend inside the wreath was changed to read (one word below the other) "UNITED STATES MINT." This is the design of all of the pattern pieces which exist.

The blunder, however, came when the decision was made to use the zinc coated steel planchets. The Mint had examples struck with the dies which Sinnock had prepared for the experiments and not the regular Lincoln cent dies. When an article appeared with a picture of the trial piece in *Numismatic Review*, the Mint came under heavy fire "for not only using part of the official Colombian coinage design, but also for having in circulation pieces bearing what appears to be an official issue of a United States Mint." The result was an explicit directive from Nellie Taylor Ross, then Director of the Mint, on May 26, 1947 which forbid all experimentation "except when the need for the use of such dies for that purpose is mandatory by reason of the requirements of the Engraver, the Superintendent of the Mint, or the Director of the Mint." The irony is that the urea and phenol used in the plastics, the most promising of the experiments, were subsequently placed on the war time critical list and that rendered all of the experimentation useless. On December 18, 1942 the bill to change the composition of the cent to the zinc coated steel cents of 1943 was passed and the rest is history.

Almost immediate rumors began circulating that there existed copper cents which were dated 1943. One of these rumors became legendary and persists with many people today. It was believed that Henry Ford offered to trade a new car for one 1943 copper cent and in 1947 he was successful. I have even had a dealer tell me that the car was a 1947 Ford which was custom painted gray and that the interior was red. Additionally, this dealer told me that the car was eventually repurchased by Ford and that both the car and the coin are on display at the Ford Greenfield Museum. The story, although interesting, is untrue. In fact, this was not the first story that involved Ford. Years before it was reported that a similar trade would be made for examples of the 1922 Plain Lincoln cent. It was said that Ford had accumulated 150 pieces; also untrue.

In the late 1950s, reports began circulating heavily about copper cents that were dated 1943. Most of these reports were letters to newspapers or columns like "FINDS", from *Numismatic Scrapbook*, which was similar to *Coin World's* "Collectors Clearing House." At that time, however, the coins were not sent in or examined. The Mint denied that any copper cents were struck in 1943. *Red Book* printed a warning from 1958 which backed up the Mint until 1961, when it was noted that some copper cents were struck in error as were a few steel cents which were dated 1944. The change was due to one coin and is the next part of our story.

In 1957 a 14-year-old boy named Marvin Beyer claimed to have found a genuine 1943 copper cent. The story was printed in the local newspapers and the March 1957 issue of *Numismatic Scrapbook*. The article in part read:

"According to stories appearing in a California newspaper, Marvin Beyer, a 14-year-old boy of Rivera, CA, found a 1943 copper cent that has passed the magnet and other tests. Also, according to the stories, bids for the coin are up to \$15,000.00."

The reference to "other tests" begins the rest of the story as it is called. The coin was offered to Mr. Abe Kosoff who said that he would not be interested in the coin without proper tests to determine its authenticity. Early in 1958, the coin was again returned to Mr. Kosoff with the results of three specific tests: specific gravity, X-ray spectrograph, and a radiograph analysis. In Mr. Kosoff's

own words, "I was as skeptical as anyone. But in the face of all these tests, I ask, 'Is it possible to have a silver cent of 1943 (struck on a dime blank)?' We know there are such things. Why not a copper cent? Does a copper cent require more special dispensation than one struck in silver?" The coin became the centerpiece of the A. N. A. auction in 1958 which Mr. Kosoff conducted. Three and two-thirds pages of the catalog were devoted to the coin and the test papers which accompanied it, a tremendous amount of space to devote to a single coin. An eyewitness to the auction gave the following account:

"One of the closing lots of the final session of the sale was the controversial 1943 cent in bronze. Naturally at an evening sale, the crowd thins out for the last few lots but that night as the sale came closer to lot number 2055, the crowd began to swell to a packed house — cameras were ready to record the event. Lot Number 2054, a proof 1877 cent, sold for \$220, and the auctioneer (Abe Kosoff) called foreign gold, lot number 2056, and made the opening bid. In a few seconds there was a buzzing through the standing-room-only crowd. Kosoff stopped the bidding and stated, as announced at the opening session, the 1943 cent has been withdrawn by the owner."

You can imagine the shock. The first genuine 1943 copper cent to be sold at public auction was withdrawn. The coin was reportedly sold privately for \$40,000.00 although it is not known to whom and the sale price has been questioned. Mr. Kosoff filed a civil suit against Mr. Beyer asking for \$60,750.00 in damages. The case was settled out of court. It would be several years before this rarity would come to auction.

Through the years there have been other 1943 copper cents authenticated, including pieces from the Denver and San Francisco Mints. The best explanation seems to be that copper blanks had been caught in the angle-iron supports of a steel tote box when the 1942 bronze coinage ceased. Then in 1943, during handling of the tote box, the bronze blanks jarred free, mingled with the new steel blanks and went through the press unnoticed, were bagged, and went off to the Federal Reserve. Rumors also suggested that it was a Mint employee who had the pieces struck just as the Liberty Nickel of 1913 had been smuggled out of the Mint. There is in fact evidence to support both explanations, although from different perspectives. The genuine 1943 copper cents are probably due to the first explanation. However, some of the varieties of the 1943 copper cent are most certainly due to the second reason. Listed here for your own judgment are the approximate numbers of the 1943 copper cent and a listing of the known varieties.

- Philadelphia Mint Six - eight pieces regular strike
Varieties — Double Struck, Triple Struck, Struck on a 1937 cent,
Struck on a 1942 cent, Struck on a cent from the 1920's.
- Denver Mint Three - five pieces regular strike
Varieties — Struck on a 1942-D cent.
- San Francisco Mint Two - four pieces regular strike
Varieties — None known.

Most of these listings are within the range of possibility with the exception of the over-strike on the cent from the 1920's, which is highly suspect.

A word to those who may want to own one of these rarities — counterfeits do exist. Walter Breen has said that he has seen six different types of counterfeits of the 1943 copper cent. He listed them as the common copper plated 1943 steel cent, the altered dates, usually from cents dated 1913 or 1948 and there are reports of pieces altered from 1945 cents, cast coins, electrotypes, die struck coins from hand engraved dies, and die struck coins from hub produced dies. The important point is to have any coin which you might consider purchasing authenticated by ANACS or some other authentication service.

Finally, one of these famous coins has a home in our own area. The coin is a Philadelphia issue and is owned by Mr. Earl Armstrong, a well known Indiana dealer who attends many coin conventions in the Central States region and frequently displays the fabled coin at his bourse table.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The persons named below have applied for membership in the Society. Each applicant will become a member in 30 days, unless a written objection to his or her application is received by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to that date.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

4186	Garrett Homack	Springfield, Missouri
4187	Thomas H. King, Jr.	Manhattan, Kansas
4188	Mark R. Feldman	Beverly Hills, California
4189	Kenneth R. Posing	Kankakee, Illinois
4190	Walt Alcott	Quartz Hill, California
4191	David R. Koble	Bartlesville, Oklahoma
4192	Barry Krumlauf	Woodburn, Indiana
4193	Robert E. Martin	Olathe, Kansas
4194	Harold Wildman	Kansas City, Kansas
4195	Michael F. Rolfe	Lenexa, Kansas
4196	James B. Russell III	Atlanta, Georgia
4197	Walter L. Teeuwen	Anchorage, Alaska
4198	Louis Pizzolatt III	Lafayette, Louisiana
4199	Henry E. Javorsky	West Allis, Wisconsin
4200	John Mieg	Scottsdale, Arizona
4201	Paul K. Lorenz	Monona, Wisconsin
4202	Robert L. Avena	Vineland, New Jersey
4203	Daniel J. Avena, Jr.	Vineland, New Jersey
4204	Angelina M. Avena	Vineland, New Jersey
4205	Daniel J. Avena	Vineland, New Jersey

LIFE MEMBER APPLICANTS

328	Thomas W. Noe	Sylvania, Ohio
329	James D. Fairfield	Fort Wayne, Indiana

Reminiscences of a Long-Time Collector

by A. P. "Del" Bertschy

When I was about twelve years old back in 1908, my mother gave me a tin tobacco box with a lot of coins in it that had belonged to her father. It contained large cents, some early half dollars, quarters, half dimes, dimes, two cent pieces, three-cent pieces (both nickle and silver), flying eagle and copper-nickle cents, and some Indian head cents. I don't remember if the Indian cents were scarce dates or not, but I know I spent some of them at the school store. In those days there were one cent gum machines on the outside of many stores. Those thick copper-nickle and flying eagle cents wouldn't go in the slot, but the thin ones would. Those are the ones I used! I had a little cabinet in the house with a few Indian relics in it and I kept the tin box with the coins in that cabinet. I still have the tin box.

We didn't have any coin dealers in Milwaukee at that time. As the years went on, if I was downtown around the little hobby stores, sometimes they had a few coins and I would buy one or two, although I didn't have much money to spend back then. Along came the first World War. I enlisted in the Navy and began stopping in such ports as Havana, Haiti, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, Barbados, Grenada, Santa Domingo, Virgin Islands, Martinique, Trinidad, and down to Venezuela, Panama and Jamaica. I got all sorts of foreign coins.

The stores of these foreign countries were always very anxious to get our United States money and I would always get quite a bit of change back when I would buy anything. One time when I made a small purchase and paid for it with a one dollar bill, I got so much change back I could almost fill my hat. I always made it a point to keep some of the better looking coins and get rid of the rest of them. Well, that went on until the end of the War. I had accumulated quite a lot by the time I got out of the service, but I kind of lost interest in foreign coins and then went more to the United States coins.

I became interested in trying to put together a set of Lincoln cents. I didn't know much about the mint marks at that time and we didn't have very many books on coins. I was just trying to get a complete set of dates from 1909 upward. It was then 1920. Occasionally, I would see that little "S" or "D" figure under the date, but I didn't pay any attention to that; I was only interested in the year on it.

I was able to buy a few coins after I got out of the service after going back to work. There would be an occasional advertisement in the various magazines, "Coins For Sale" and I would correspond and buy a few coins. Then Whitman started to manufacture the little cardboard folders for different coins. That really started the coin collecting business on its way. Many people began to buy the folders in the department stores and book stores, and then try to get the coins to fill them up.

In 1940 I joined the Milwaukee Numismatic Society and the Central States Numismatic Society, which was started in 1939. In 1942, I joined the A.N.A. Then we started to get more information at the monthly meetings of our local coin club. I subscribed to The Scrapbook and The Numismatist. We had no regular weekly coin papers at that time.

On one of my regular trips to Fond du Lac — which was every week — I called on one of my grocery customers who held out his hand with five flying eagle cents in it. I looked at him a little funny. He said, "Well, you want them, don't you? You are always asking me for old coins." I said, "Yes, I just was wondering where you got them." He said, "Well, an old man, a farmer who just moved into a retirement home here has been coming in every morning buying a newspaper with one of them." (Newspapers in those days sold for one cent.) "So I thought I would tell you when you came so you could go over and see him."

So I went over to see the man and was shown up to his room in this retirement home. I told him who I was and that I had picked up five flying eagles from a grocery store, and I asked him if he had any more. He said, "Yes." I said, "Well, I'm a coin collector and I would like to buy them if you want to sell them." He said, "Well, I think they are worth more than they call for." That is the expression he used. I said, "Well, what would you want for them?" He said, "Would you give me double?" I said, "Yes." So he opened the closet door and the cover of a trunk and pulled out a bag. I got pretty excited. I figured there might be an 1856 in there. We put them on the marble-top dresser and counted them. There were 640 and I gave him \$13.00, and he was happy about the deal.

Well, when I got back to Milwaukee with them, I told one of the boys at the Milwaukee Numismatic Society that I thought I would put some of them up in rolls and put them in our monthly auction. He advised against that and said, "You put in **that** many and the price will go way down. Make up some sets with the 1857 and the two 1858's once in a while and offer them to the members." That's what I did! But I probably have about half of them left and have supplied several of the coin shops with them, as well as many members and collectors who wanted nice specimens for their sets.

A little later on in the year at one of my stops up in Random Lake, there was a place that was a grocery store, a tavern, and an undertaking establishment all in the same building and owned and operated by the same man. He showed me a lot of large size paper money that he had just received on a funeral service and I got kind of interested. I'd seen some of the old large size paper money around but up to that time I had only been a coin collector. He told me, "If you want this money, I would be glad to give it to you because I don't like to go over to the bank with all that large size money; people may ask some questions about it." Well, I knew it was all good legal tender so I arranged to get this large size money — it amounted to about \$500.00.

Then I consulted one of my friends who had a hobby shop in Milwaukee and asked where I could get some information on the stuff. He said, "Write to Mr. Grinnel in Detroit." I wrote to him and, of course, he became very interested because he was a buyer and seller of paper money and had a tremendous stock of the old large size notes and wanted to get other people interested. From then on I corresponded with him and bought paper money from him at very fair prices. As an example, I think I bought the Educational Series at \$3.00 for the One Dollar, \$5.00 for the Two Dollar, and \$8.00 for the Five Dollar Note. He was a very, very fine gentleman who gave me a lot of good tips. He developed the cellulose acetate holders when they first came on the market. He had some man making them for him. They were safe to use because they

were fireproof. They looked like celluloid, but they wouldn't burn like celluloid. At about that time, Waite Raymond published a little book on paper money that, although it didn't go into much detail, was a pretty good book to use until the Friedberg came out.

Many times I'd stop at the banks — First Wisconsin, Marine, and Marshall and Ilsley — and would ask about large size paper money. They were very willing to let me take whatever I wanted because they were just going to turn it in anyway. If I would have had a Friedberg Catalog at that time I probably would have kept more of it than I did. I only took the large notes in choice condition — and then only what my pocketbook would stand. But fortunately I did keep quite a lot of that paper money and when I did get duplicates I would send them to a dealer in Syracuse, New York, by the name of Barney Bluestone. He paid 10 percent over face value for large size paper money in real good condition.

Just a short time ago, I ran across a list of some paper money I sent him and in the lot was an 1891 \$20 Coin Note. For this I received \$22.00 — and Friedberg now lists it in very fine at \$3,850. Other notes in the lot would also be very valuable today. But that's because at the time we had no information on which notes were scarce. There were only a few dealers in the country besides Mr. Grinnell, Max Mehl, Mr. Philpott, Lou Werner and a few more who bought and sold paper money and knew what the scarce items were. The ordinary collector didn't know what paper money was and what wasn't rare.

The reason I used to drop in at the three large banks downtown was that the banks acted as wholesalers for all the small correspondent banks throughout the state. This was a time when there weren't many Indian cents in circulation any more — most everything was Lincoln cents. Every once in a while one of my friends at one of the banks would get in a bag or cigar box of Indian cents that somebody had turned in, probably taken out of some safety deposit box or some person had them around the house and didn't want them any more. The boys would call me and ask me if I wanted to look them over. In those days no one was really anxious to pay a premium on Indian cents, but I liked to look them over because occasionally I would find a scarce one in there — either a date below 1880 or probably a 1908-S or 1909S. So I would go down and look them over and the boys would always tell me, "You don't have to take them all, Del, just pick out the ones you want." Of course, if I'd known then what I know now I would have taken all the Indian head cents, but there was really no reason for it then.

One day later on I dropped into a jewelry store which sold coins as a side line and the owner said to me. "You want to buy some Indian head cents, Del?" I said, "Well, how much?" He said, "Well, I'll sell you 7000 for 2¢ a piece." I said, "My God, where did you get 7000 Indian cents from?" He said, "There's an old fellow who lived along down the street and he always saved Indian cents. He wanted to get rid of them and I paid him a cent and a half for them." He said, "I don't want them and I want to sell them and I figure one-half cent a piece wouldn't be too much profit to take." I said, "Well, I'll take them." So I paid him \$140 for 7000 at 2¢ a piece.

They were all in cigar boxes and in little white envelopes inside the boxes. The dates were on each envelope and the number of Indian head cents inside

was written on the envelopes. The end on each cigar box was marked with a number and the numbers started with 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. But when I got home I discovered I did not have the Number One box! That's the one the jeweler kept — and didn't say anything about! He had kept all the Indians in that box, which probably were dated below 1880, and I got them from 1880 to 1909. I wasn't disappointed because I did find some dates in very nice condition, and also many 1885 and 1894 cents that nobody cared about in those days and now are what you call a "Semi-Key Coin."

In the early days, the conventions I attended did not have bourse dealers, but only a few collectors and dealers walking around buying and selling coins. I think the bourse started in the early 1940's. Before that it was just a gathering of numismatists in different cities each year. It was just a get-together. I can remember the ANA convention I attended in Buffalo, New York in 1947. We had some bourse dealers, but not very many. The most important thing was the exhibits. We stressed exhibits more than the bourse. But now with the expenses of present day conventions, it is the bourse dealers who defray these costs.

In the year 1945 things started to get going in the coin collecting hobby and peaked probably in 1963 when the uncirculated roll market skyrocketed. \$2.00 rolls of 1950-D uncirculated nickels went for as high as \$900 — 1950-D's today are priced under \$275. All rolls of coins were priced too high. It didn't take long before the crash came and the market tumbled, and all but wiped out many investors and dealers. The dealers who had not become too much involved in rolls and dealt only in single choice coins didn't suffer very much. The crash hurt the hobby for several years, but it has survived.

Back in 1947 I had an exhibit of coins and paper money in the window of the Marine National Exchange Bank — in their old building before they built the Marine Plaza. I was very happy to get a medal from ANA for the exhibit I had. The picture is in the April issue of the Numismatist (1947) and it will be noted that at that time it was not lawful to photograph paper money, so the paper money in the picture has all been scratched out of the film so it is not reproduced in the picture. The display was 6' x 10' and filled the entire window.

It was back in 1942 that Mac (J. V. McDermott) purchased the 1913 Liberty Nickel and he was very much concerned about the price he paid for it at that time — \$900. He brought the letter and affidavit from James Kelly down to the Coin Club to prove that this was the genuine coin and that there were only five all told. It was only a short time later that he was very happy that he had invested in the nickel because it didn't do anything but go up — up all the time! I can remember him saying one time that he wouldn't take \$5,000 for the coin and I think some time later he said the price was \$10,000. Well, I don't think he would ever sell it, and if he was living today he probably still would have it.

At any convention, you would always find Mac with his nickel in the little plastic holder in his shirt pocket or his coat pocket. You could usually find him at a cocktail lounge, as he was always there buying everybody drinks. He was a very generous guy. He would take that plastic holder out of his pocket and if anybody wanted to see the nickel, he would show it to them and slide it up and down the bar. Whenever he left to go home, the thing was always back in his pocket; he never lost it. He made the coin famous because he sent it to coin

clubs all over the United States for use in an exhibit. It was through this publicity the coin got to be real famous. He joined our Society I think about the same time I did. He formerly was in a slot machine business, and I think he got started in numismatics by looking through all those coins. When the slot machines were ruled out, he got into the coin business. He got to be quite a dealer, and for a number of years had several pages of advertising every month in the Numismatic Scrapbook magazine.

During the early years of my collecting the prices of coins were very reasonable. I can remember when single 1909-S V.D.B. Lincoln cents were offered at 25¢ each. Gold dollars were \$1.50 to \$1.75 each. Checking a memo from John Stewart in 1941 I note a purchase of a \$2.50 Pan Pacific Gold for \$14.00. and the Pan Pacific \$1.00 for \$3.75. Another invoice from Toivo Johnson with some approval lots shows I returned two pieces I thought were priced too high — the 1936 York and the 1935 Texas at \$1.00 each. An invoice from M. H. Bolender in 1942 lists 1937 proof cents at 75¢ each; a 1938 proof set at \$4.25; and a 1941 proof set at \$2.25. Several lots of an auction list from the Chicago Coin Club that is dated September 11, 1945, are marked with prices realized and it's unbelievable that coins could be purchased at these prices:

1877 Unc. Indian Head Cent	\$11.50
1888 — \$1.00 Gold Proof	\$ 9.00
1925 — \$2.50 Gold — Unc.	\$ 4.80
1857 — Flying Eagle Cent — Unc.	\$ 2.50
1893 — Isabella Quarter — Unc.	\$ 3.10

Coin collecting, I guess, for the past sixty years has been my first love as far as hobbies go. I expect to take a good rest after the Central States Con-
ion is over in April.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 87, a long time member and Past President of the Central States Numismatic Society, is General Chairman of the 1984 Central States Convention in Milwaukee. In addition, he has served on the Convention Committee or as Bourse or General Chairman for the 1941, 1954, 1962, 1972 and 1977 Central States Conventions and is believed to be the oldest living member of the Central States Numismatic Society.

"Del" is well known in Wisconsin numismatic circles and currently serves on the Board of Governors of the Numismatists of Wisconsin and the Central States Numismatic Society. He is also Vice President of the Milwaukee Numis-
matic Society, host club of this year's CSNS Convention, and is a holder of Krause Publication's Numismatic Ambassador Award as well as the Medal of Merit of the Central States Numismatic Society.

HOW MANY NEW MEMBERS HAVE YOU
SIGNED UP FOR CSNS SO FAR THIS YEAR?

SHOW CALENDAR

Show Chairmen are invited to send announcements of upcoming coin shows in the Central States region. The Show Calendar is intended to assist collectors and dealers in planning their show attendance. It is also designed to aid show sponsors in avoiding date conflicts. Show dates will be listed up to 24 months in advance and show sponsors are encouraged to submit dates for future shows through June of 1986. Please include the city where the show will be held, official name of show, show dates and location, as well as the name, address and phone number of the show or bourse chairman. Send to: Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 26 - 29, 1984

Central States Numismatic Society Convention and Coin Show, MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Avenue. A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 North Murray Avenue, Shorewood, Wisconsin 53211.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN — MAY 4 - 6, 1984

Michigan State Numismatic Society 28th Annual Spring Convention. Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and Grand Center. M. S. N. S. Spring Convention, P. O. Box 2014, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA — MAY 5 - 6, 1984

Nebraska Numismatic Association 29th Annual Coin Show and Convention. Hilton Hotel, 9th and P Streets. John J. Gabarron, P. O. Box 30011, Lincoln, Nebraska 68503.

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI — MAY 5 - 6, 1984

Columbia Coin Club Annual Coin Show, Hilton Inn, I-70 at Stadium Drive. Columbia Coin Club, P. O. Box 7293, Columbia, Missouri 65205.

DES MOINES, IOWA — MAY 11 - 13, 1984

Des Moines Coin Club Annual Coin Show. Adventureland III, I-80 and Highway 65. A. L. Victoria, P. O. Box 31, Des Moines, Iowa 50310.

SEDALIA, MISSOURI — MAY 19 - 20, 1984

Central Missouri Coin Club Coin, Stamp and Hobby Show. Liberty Park Convention Hall. Larry Grinstead, 1211 South Carr, Sedalia, Missouri 65301. (816) 827-3888

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS — JUNE 3, 1984

Rockford Area Coin Club 55th Semi-Annual Coin Show. Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, Highway 251 South and U. S. 20 Interchange. Ralph Winquist, P. O. Box 1974, Rockford, Illinois 61109.

CINCINNATI, OHIO — JUNE 8 - 10, 1984

Cincinnati Coin Show. Marriott Inn, 11320 Chester Road at I-75 Exit 15 Sharon Road West. Ron Nelson, P. O. Box 22673, Cleveland, Ohio 44122. (216) 338-3181

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA — JUNE 15 - 17, 1984

Indiana State Numismatic Association 26th Annual Convention, Indiana Convention Center, 100 South Capitol Avenue. Jerry Lebo, P. O. Box 44337, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

BROOKINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA — JUNE 22 - 24, 1984

South Dakota Coin and Stamp Association 33rd Annual Convention. South Dakota State University Campus. Ed Kampen, P. O. Box 574, Wentworth, South Dakota 57006.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — JUNE 29 - 30 and JULY 1

5th Annual N. O. I. S. E. Coin Convention. Rosemont Exposition Center, 5600 North River Road, Rosemont, Illinois. Joseph Irmen, P. O. Box 424, Wood Dale, Illinois 60191. (312) 980-3200

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — JULY 13 - 15, 1984

MidAmerica Coin Show, MECCA Convention Center, 6th and Kilbourn Avenue. Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. (414) 282-2388

DETROIT, MICHIGAN — JULY 29 - AUGUST 4, 1984

93rd Anniversary Convention of the American Numismatic Association, Cobo Hall and Detroit Plaza Hotel. Florence Schook, P. O. Box 2014, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

CINCINNATI, OHIO — SEPTEMBER 14 - 16, 1984

Greater Cincinnati Numismatic Exposition. Drawbridge Convention Center, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky. Paul Padgett, 2200 Victory Parkway, Suite 501, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206. (513) 861-5506

CLEVELAND, OHIO — SEPTEMBER 7 - 9, 1984

Cleveland Rainbow Coin Show. Holiday Inn Rockside, I-77 Exit 155 just South of I-480. Ron Nelson, P. O. Box 22673, Cleveland, Ohio 44122. (216) 338-3181

COLUMBUS, OHIO — SEPTEMBER 21 - 23, 1984

Columbus Rainbow Coin Show. Aladdin Temple, 3850 Stelzer Road. Ron Nelson, P. O. Box 22673, Cleveland, Ohio 44122. (216) 338-3181

FORT DODGE, IOWA — SEPTEMBER 28 - 30, 1984

Iowa Numismatic Association Convention and Coin Show. Holiday Inn, Highway 169 South. Mike Scacci, 216 10th Avenue, Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — SEPTEMBER 28 - 30, 1984

Milwaukee Numismatic Society 50th Annual Fall Coin Show, MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Avenue. A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 North Murray Avenue, Shorewood, Wisconsin 53211.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY — OCTOBER 20 - 21, 1984

Kentucky State Numismatic Assn. Annual Convention and Coin Show. Ramada Inn Bluegrass Convention Center, 9700 Bluegrass Parkway. Mike Scshmidt, 6310 Upper Hunters Trace, Shivley, Kentucky 40216.

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS — OCTOBER 21, 1984

Rockford Area Coin Club 56th Semi-Annual Coin Show. Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, Highway 251 South and U. S. 20 Interchange. Ralph Winquist, P. O. Box 1974, Rockford, Illinois 61109.

TOLEDO, OHIO — OCTOBER 26 - 28, 1984

Toledo Rainbow Coin Show. Sheraton Westgate Inn, 3536 Secor Road at I-475 Exit 17 South. Ron Nelson, P. O. Box 22673, Cleveland, Ohio 44122. (216) 338-3181

DAYTON, OHIO — NOVEMBER 2 - 4, 1984

14th Semi-Annual Fall Greater Dayton Area Coin Exposition. Dayton Convention and Exposition Center, 5th and Main Streets. Ron Crouch, 188 Lynnhaven Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45431. (513) 254-9589

CINCINNATI, OHIO — NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2, 1984

Cincinnati Rainbow Coin Show. Marriott Inn, I-75 Sharon Road Exit 15 West. Ron Nelson, P. O. Box 22673, Cleveland, Ohio 44122. (216) 338-3181

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — FEBRUARY 23 - 25, 1985

21st Annual Greater America Coin Fair, Marriott Airport Motor Inn. Bill Armstrong, 327 Northwest Plaza, St. Ann, Missouri 63074.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 12 - 14, 1985

South Shore Coin Club 22nd Annual Coin Show. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Avenue. John Wilson, P. O. Box 27185, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53227. (414) 545-8636

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA — APRIL 25 - 28, 1985

Central States Numismatic Society Annual Convention and Coin Show. Dick Grinolds, P. O. Box 18002, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 12-13-14, 1985
SOUTH SHORE COIN CLUB 22nd ANNUAL COIN SHOW
MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourne Avenue
150 DEALERS

BOURSE: JOHN WILSON

P. O. BOX 27185, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53227

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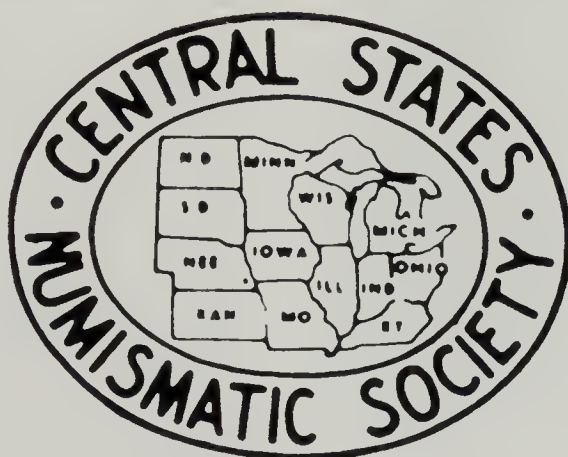
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PHONE 414-962-5975

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 49th Annual Coin Show last October was the largest and finest club sponsored show in the north central United States in 1983

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society will host the 1984 Central States Numismatic Society Convention on April 26 - 29, 1984 at MECCA

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45th Anniversary
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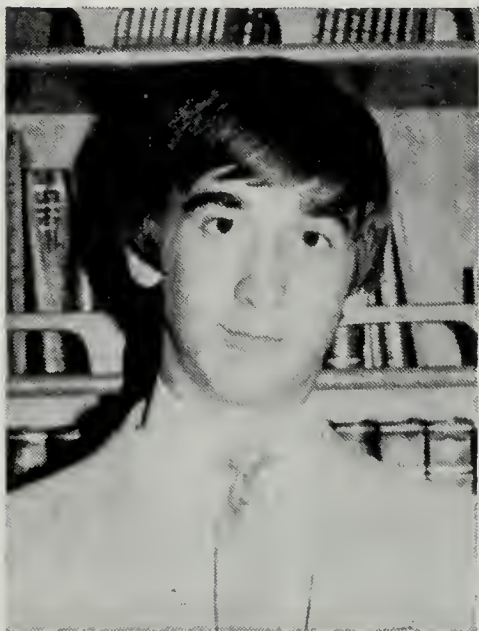
**A. P. (DEL) BERTSCHY, CHAIRMAN — PHONE (414) 962-5975
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EXHIBITORS INVITED

**The Milwaukee Numismatic Society will host the
CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY CONVENTION**

THE YN PAGE

by Dominic Garetto J-3611



As a YN, I'm sure you often feel like you want to be more active in numismatics, more involved in our hobby, and probably get frustrated because of the seemingly few and difficult options. Everyone says that numismatics is not only an enjoyable hobby, but also a learning experience, and of course that's true. But perhaps, like many others, you've found it to be more of a spending experience than anything else.

I'm hoping to shoot some fresh numismatic interest into the veins of young collectors whose thirst for the hobby has dried out. Yes, the issue I'm going to address has been written about many times in the past, and I hope that it will be written about many times in the future, as long as new YN's venture into a collecting field where they will try to find a place between the gem proof type coins and the BU double eagles.

Of the many available ways by which YN's can become more involved with numismatics, writing articles is highly recommended, and for good reason. The research involved in most articles will increase your knowledge of whatever topic you choose, and sharing the information with readers provides the satisfaction of knowing everyone learned something. Numismatic writing can open up whole new fields of interest, and may even lead to a career.

As it was said long ago, "The man who reads is a full man, but the man who writes is a precise man." If you decide to sharpen your numismatic precision by writing, there's a great coin publication that offers you widespread circulation, prestige, and a reading membership hungry for informative articles. It's our **Centinel**, and for further information, write the editor: Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Wilwaukee, WI 53201.

If the prospect of writing doesn't stimulate your interest, another area that you might enjoy is giving a presentation on coins. You would surely find a supportive audience at your local coin club, where you could talk about your specialty or favorite collecting area. Contacting a club official would be the first step towards livening up your coin club meeting. You could also try speaking at school in a history or speech class. By combining class work with coins, not only can you earn academic credit, but you might even make a few more hobby related friends. If interested, talk to your teacher. Most would love a class-

related presentation on coins, and they would probably enjoy it themselves.

A more active form of participation, and my personal favorite, is attending coin shows. Most YN's are too concerned with the money they think necessary for a successful visit to a coin show. I have an alternative suggestion. The next time you walk into the bourse area of a show, stop and look around at all the dealers perched over their inventory, and just imagine the sum total of all the numismatic knowledge possessed in the room.

With only a dozen dealers, there is more knowledge and experience than anyone could obtain in a lifetime. It might sound ridiculous, but actually it can be more valuable than any book. By visiting each dealer, asking any questions you might have (when the dealer isn't busy with customers), you can benefit from years of professional experience and expert knowledge. A trip to your local coin show may prove to be more worthwhile than you think. For dates and locations of the nearest shows, check with your coin club.

Not only are these advantages increased when you attend a major show or convention, but there are many other opportunities as well. For instance, when you need information on a particular topic, a dealer specializing in it can usually be found at large coin shows, giving you expert insight otherwise not available. You may want to share some knowledge and insight of your own by exhibiting a part of your collection.

You could base it on any organized and educational theme, such as a set of Lincoln cents, displaying one coin from each major variety in composition (bronze, brass, zinc, etc.). Along with the coins you could include a short explanation of the reasons for each change, and there you'd have the makings of a fine exhibit. This example is not only organized and edu-

cational, but also inexpensive. And while I believe that the fun of exhibiting comes regardless of competition, it's encouraging to know that a well-done presentation worth only face value can surpass even the most expensive exhibit.

Local coin clubs and coin shows often have exhibitors, and it would be worthwhile to check, but most often major conventions are the prime place for displaying your numismatic interests. The dates and locations of major coin shows in your area can be found in the show calendar of the **Centinel**, as well as other hobby publications such as **Numismatic News** and **Coin World**. Also listed is the name and address of each show's convention chairman, whom you should write for information about exhibiting. An example is our CSNS convention, one of the largest shows in the country, which will be held April 26-29 in Milwaukee, Wis. If you'd like to exhibit, contact the convention chairman: A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 North Murray Ave., Shorewood, WI 53211.

At the American Numismatic Association's annual convention (to be held this year in Detroit, Mich., July 28 - August 4), you also have the opportunity to be a page. The duties of a page are running errands for bourse dealers and ANA staff, for which you receive tips. You share the chores with other pages, working in shifts, so that you have time for other activities, too. The tips can really add up, and a hard working page might even earn enough to cover the expenses of the convention. Write to the ANA at P. O. Box 2366, Colorado Springs, CO 80901, for the address of the YN Chairman handling the page activities. To find out which of the other major shows also need pages, contact the respective convention chairman. I'm sure that it will be a fun and profitable experience.

An opportunity that is available solely through the ANA is the Roman Coin Project, where you can earn

Roman and Byzantine coins by fulfilling requirements much the same as the activities I've mentioned. At no cost other than postage, you'll become more involved in numismatics and be acquiring coins that will be a great addition to your collection. For complete information about the RCP, write to David R. Cervin, 6201 Adirondack, Amarillo, TX 79106.

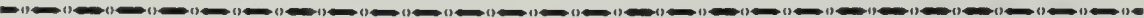
Participation in our hobby through the activities I've described can provide more than enjoyment and recognition — it can provide a full scholarship to what I consider the premier YN event: the ANA Summer Seminar. This year's week-long educational seminar, offering such courses as counterfeit detection and coin grading, will be held in Colorado Springs, July 8-14. Seminar students stay at Colorado College, which offers recreational facilities for all interests, as well as beautiful mountain scenery. Between classes, held in various college halls, students can spend time at the ANA

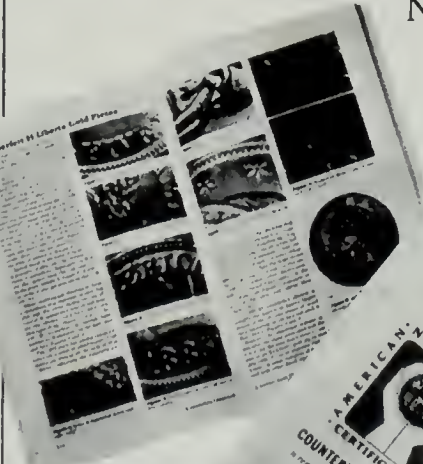
headquarters conveniently located on campus.

The classes will teach the students a great deal on the specific topics, but as I found out, there is even more to be learned by talking with the other numismatists who have traveled from all around the country. My summer seminar experience was one of the best weeks I've ever spent, and I know that any YN would enjoy it just as much. Since the CSNS sponsors a deserving junior each year, you have the chance to spend such a week: write to Kurt R. Krueger, P. O. Box 275, Iola, WI 54945.

The ANA also offers summer seminar scholarships. If you can't submit an entry to the CSNS for some reason, write to Florence Schook, P. O. Box 2014, Livonia, MI 49154. Entries for the ANA scholarships are usually due in early May, so don't put off your chance for a great experience. Good luck!

— Dominic Garetto



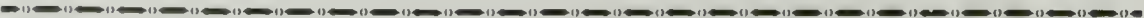


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Legal Tender

by Bill Mross

(1) Recently, while I was shopping with my wife, I visited a local coin store and purchased a \$700 coin. I paid for it and the dealer issued a receipt. Since my wife and I still had several stops to make and I didn't want to risk carrying such a valuable coin around with me, I asked the dealer to keep it in his safe until the next day when I'd return to claim it. He agreed.

Later that same afternoon he was the victim of an armed robbery and many coins were stolen, including mine. When I asked for a refund of my money he refused. He claims the coin was mine the moment I paid for it and that he has no liability at all since he was storing it for me as a favor and not as a condition of making the sale or for any kind of additional payment. Is his position a strong one?
— J. F., New York City

Dear J. F.: Theoretically the dealer occupies shifting sand, but as a practical matter he is on solid ground. The relationship that prevailed between the two of you is characterized in law as a bailment. Bailments are of two kinds and may be referred to as lucrative and as gratuitous. A lucrative bailment is obviously done for some kind of compensation, while a gratuitous one is simply a favor.

The dealer may think that he was performing an essential courtesy for you by retaining the coin. However, I think it likely that a Court would hold that a bailment for mutual benefit had been created. The benefit to you is obvious. The benefit to the dealer would accrue because it was performed incident to a business in which he made a profit. By taking charge of the specimen, he agreed by implication to take some degree of care of it.

A bailee who fails to fulfill his duty of care, which failure proximately results in a loss, will be held to respond in damages. In this lucrative bailment situation, the dealer would be held to a standard of reasonable or ordinary care. This amounts to such care as an ordinarily prudent person would use in looking after his own property under similar circumstances. The nature of the item and the circumstances of the bailee's holding it are assessed in order to determine what care is reasonable care.

More pertinent to your problem is the fact that a bailee cannot be held to be an insurer and will not be liable for loss or injury to property stemming from a crime unless the bailee failed to take appropriate preventive measures to keep the crime from occurring in the first place. Had the dealer made a special contract with you indicating that he would return the item to you in any event, you could be able to recover from him, but I do not see this in your factual situation. It would not seem that here the dealer would have been able to anticipate or guard against the robbery and he would not, therefore, seem to be liable to you.

The real point here is that the dealer would owe you a duty, but inasmuch as he did not fail in fulfilling that duty he would suffer no legal liability. I would suggest checking with your Home Owner's Insurance Company to see if recovery might be had under your policy with them.

(2) In the course of my business as a coin dealer I attend and have a bourse table at many coin shows around the country. Many of the vest pocket dealers with whom I do business ask me to keep their coins over-

night at my table so they can take advantage of the security offered by the show sponsors, who keep armed guards in the exhibit hall overnight.

I've always been glad to do this as a favor for my friends, but lately have gotten to wondering if I'd have any liability if one of their coin laden briefcases should be stolen from behind my table. Any light you can shed on this situation would be appreciated. — K. N., New York City

Dear K. N.: Your question bears similarities to the one above and I don't believe that I would respond to it much differently. If this was to be deemed a lucrative bailment by reason of furthering some business relationships with these other dealers, then I would suggest that you refer to the forgoing by way of response.

If, however, this would be considered a gratuitous bailment because you derive no material benefit therefrom,

then I would note tha it would have to meet up to a lesser duty of care. Although the standard has been increased of late by some Courts, your duty as a gratuitous bailee is simply that of slight care and diligence. This would match to that which a reasonable person would use in conducting their own affairs of slight importance and is the minimum amount of care to avoid an allegation of gross negligence (the failure to exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence by not bestowing the care that property in its situation demands).

If you would be found to be a gratuitous bailee, you only need meet this lesser standard and are even less likely to be found liable than the dealer above, in the event that a loss occurs as the result of criminal agency.

— Bill Mross
Legal Tender

FUTURE CSNS CONVENTIONS

- 1984 — April 26 - 29 Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Chairman: A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 N. Murray Ave., Shorewood, Wis. 53211
- 1985 — April 25 - 28 Minneapolis, Minnesota
Chairman: Dick Grinolds, Box 18002, Minneapolis, Minn. 55418
- 1986 — April 2 - 5 Kansas City, Missouri
Chairman: Ralph Hardman, 4809 Belinder Ct., Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66205
- 1987 — May 7 - 10 St. Louis, Missouri
Chairman: Ron Horstman, 6137 Victoria Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63139
- 1988 — April 7 - 10 Indianapolis, Indiana

NOTE TO CLUB OFFICIALS

Interested in hosting a future CSNS Convention? It is not too early to begin thinking of the future! Submit your letter of invitation to the CSNS Secretary-Treasurer at your earliest convenience. Your request will receive the prompt attention of the Officers and Board of Governors.

Numismatic Travels

by Kevin Foley

This year's Central States Numismatic Society Convention is a special occasion for the host club, the Milwaukee Numismatic Society, as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary of service to collectors in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Milwaukee has a well deserved reputation as a safe and clean city and I hope our Central States Convention participants will take at least a few hours from their hectic schedules to sample and enjoy the sights and experiences Milwaukee has to offer.

The Convention committee has made plans for a narrated bus tour of the city for Saturday afternoon. The tour will last for about three hours and includes stops at the Mitchell Park Botanical Gardens and one of the breweries for which Milwaukee has become so well known. Yes, free samples are included. I've taken this tour myself and recommend it highly, especially for the first-time visitor who wants to use limited sight-seeing time productively. The cost is only \$6.00 and you can register with the card enclosed in the last edition of the *Centinel*.

If you'll have children with you, the Milwaukee Zoo, at 10001 West Blue-mound Road, is a rewarding experience. It's worth a full day's visit and is recognized as one of the finer zoos in the country. It's about ten miles from downtown and is easily accessible by public transit. Board the Number 10 bus on the North side of Wisconsin Avenue, marked "County Hospital," "124th Street" or "Brookfield Square." Wisconsin Avenue is the main East-West downtown street and is two blocks South of the MECCA Convention Center show site.

Another worthwhile experience would

be the Milwaukee Public Museum, at 800 West Wells Street, an easy four block walk West from MECCA. There are a number of lifelike dioramas and walk through exhibits. Probably the most popular feature is the "Streets of Old Milwaukee" exhibit. You can spend a productive hour here or wander around for a full day and enjoy every minute of it.

The Milwaukee Art Museum at 750 North Lincoln Memorial Drive on the lakefront is another site I recommend highly. Art work on display ranges from ancient Egyptian to modern American and the collections are strong in German Expressionism and 17th and 18th century American decorative arts. A moderate, but manageable walk from the Convention Center, the Art Museum is also easily reached by boarding any Number 30 bus on the South side of Wisconsin Avenue **except** the "Jackson-Downer" bus.

Milwaukee has a large number of good restaurants and a Convention-goers visit to our city wouldn't be complete without a visit to at least one of them. Here are a few you might want to consider:

Mader's

1037 North Third Street

A short walk from MECCA, Mader's is well known throughout the country as one of Milwaukee's better eating places. The menu includes an extensive offering of German items as well as continental specialties. Upstairs there's a gift shop featuring a large inventory of Hummel figurines and similar collectibles. A visit here never ends in disappointment. 271-3377.

Karl Ratzch's

320 East Mason Street

Another of Milwaukee's finest restaurants featuring German and con-

tinental dining. Like Mader's a nicely decorated establishment that promises a memorable experience. Dress code evenings. 276-2720.

John Ernst Cafe

600 East Ogden Avenue

Milwaukee's oldest restaurant and well known for its high quaity German and American offerings. Decorated in the old world tradition with music nightly. 273-5918.

These first three restaurants, Mader's, Karl Ratzch's and John Ernst are among the favorites of Milwaukeeans and each is highly recommended.

If more casual dining suits your taste, you might want to consider **John Hawk's Pub** at 607 North Broadway. It really looks like a traditional pub and features a good selection of imported beers and simple, but ample soup and sandwich fare. Board any Eastbound bus on the South side of Wisconsin Avenue and get off at Broadway. Located just South of Wisconsin Avenue.

Milwaukee is famous for Friday night fish fries and my favorite is the **Chancery** at 4624 South 27th Street. It's part of a chain and across the street from K-Mart, but don't hold that against it. The perch fish fry is really outstanding. Board any Number 10, 30 or 31 bus on the North side of

Wisconsin Avenue. Transfer at 27th Street to the Number 27 bus marked "College."

If you want to catch a movie in Milwaukee, try the **Oriental Theater** at 2230 North Farwell Avenue, regardless of what's playing. The theater itself is the real experience and will bring you back to the days when movies were shown in something besides suburban shopping center shoe boxes. Board any Number 30 bus on the South side of Wisconsin Avenue, get off at North Avenue and ask someone to direct you the few blocks to the Oriental.

Also worth a visit of you want to see the **real Milwaukee** is the nearby lunch counter of the **Oriental Pharmacy**, at 2238 North Farwell Avenue. It's always crowded and you're likely to see the widest range of human types there this side of Hollywood Boulevard — the food isn't bad either.



If you'll be arriving in Milwaukee by car, remember to check the charges prior to parking, as rates vary widely in the Convention Center area. Perhaps the most expensive facility is the parking structure immediately adjacent to the Hyatt.



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All of our speakers appear on a no-fee basis, however, reimbursement for travel and lodging expense is considered appropriate. If you'd like to consider having one of our speakers at your function, use the information in the listing here to contact them.

Kevin Foley P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201 — (414) 282-2388
Editor of The Centinel, programs on U.S. paper money, including National Bank Notes, Fractional Currency, Large Size Notes, and Obsolete Notes.

Rich Hartzog P. O. Box 4143, Rockford, Ill. 61110 — (815) 226-0771
Author of numerous articles and several books on tokens and medals. Programs on tokens and medals and related exonomia.

George Hatie 400 Renaissance Center, Suite 1900, Detroit, Mich. 48243
Past President of the American Numismatic Association. Current Legal Counsel for Central States Numismatic Society. Programs on general numismatic topics and numismatically related legal questions.

Leon Hendrickson P. O. Box 424, Winchester, Ind. 47394 — (317) 584-7481
Central States Numismatic Society 2nd Vice-President. Owner of SilverTowne Coin Shop. General numismatic subjects.

Kurt R. Krueger 160 N. Washington St., Iola, Wis. 54945 — (715) 445-3845
President of Central States Numismatic Society. Member American Numismatic Association Board of Governors. General numismatic subjects.

Leonard M. Owen 684 North 59th St., Omaha, Neb. 68132 — (402) 551-4531
Author of numerous articles on Nebraska Obsolete Currency, Trans-Mississippi Exposition, Territorial Warrants and related subjects. Programs on these as well as general numismatic topics.

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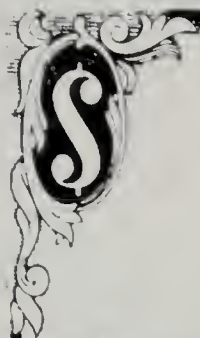
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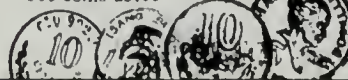
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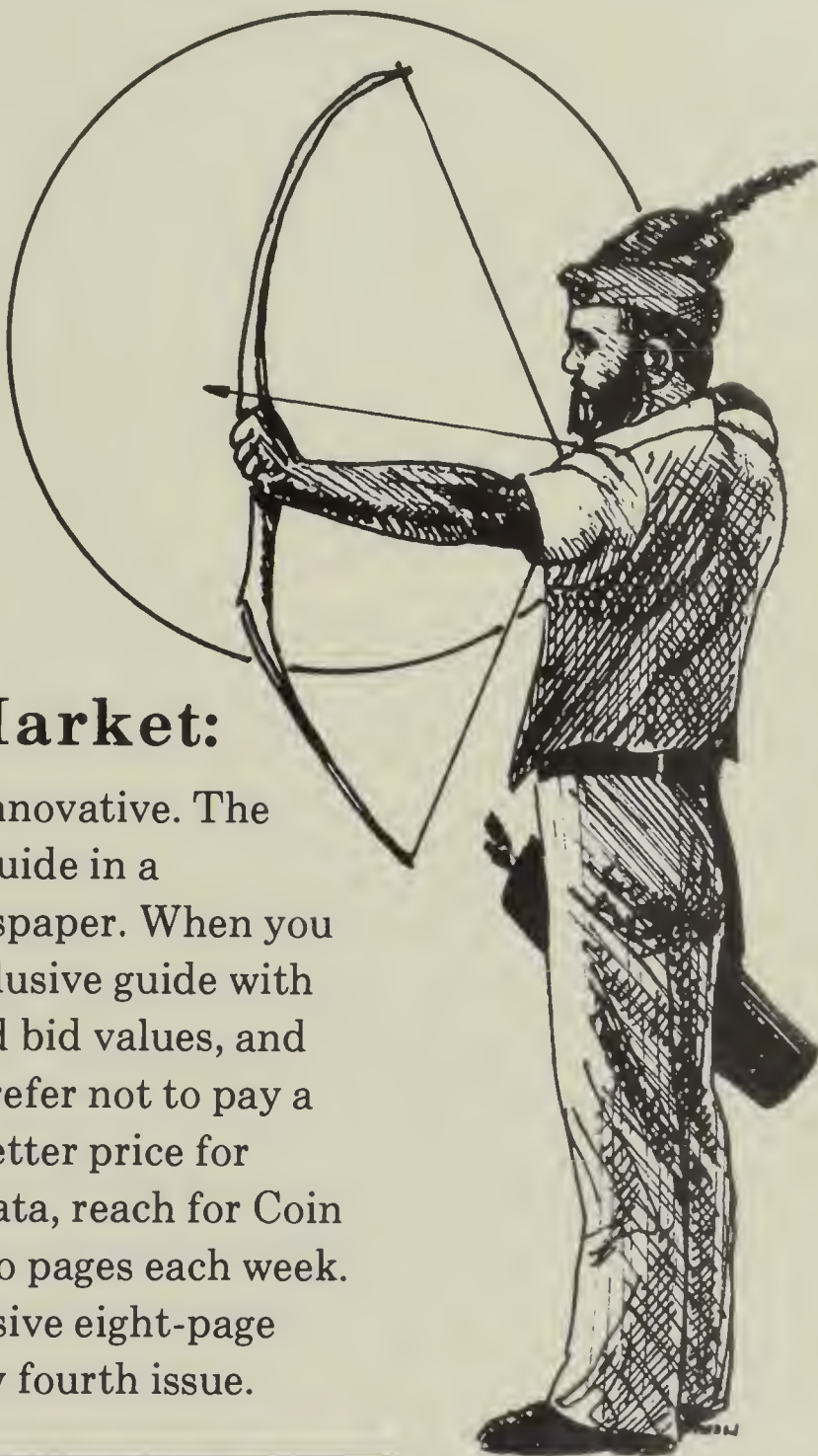
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